

# The Gracevine

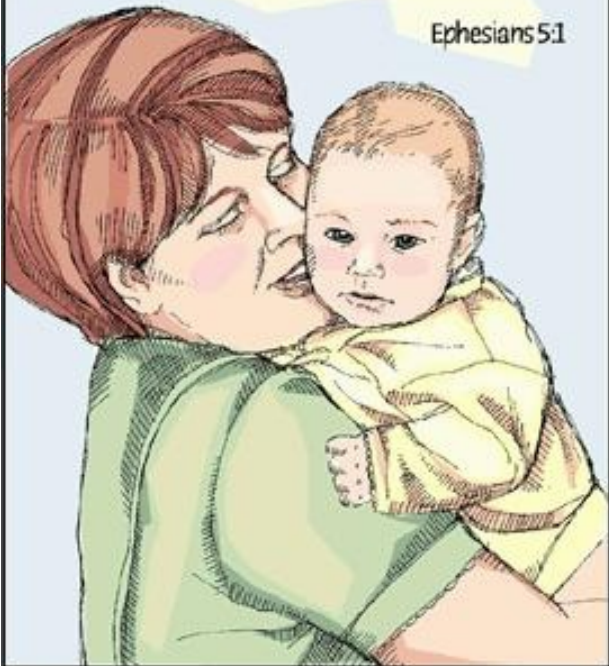
NEWSLETTER OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

Our Mission: "Sharing God's Love Through Grace"

## May 2024

Be imitators of God,  
therefore, as dearly  
loved children.

Ephesians 5:1



### Happy Mother's Day - May 12

## Grace Lutheran Church



NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

Office: 740/246-6576 Web: [www.gracethornville.org](http://www.gracethornville.org)

Email: [office@gracethornville.org](mailto:office@gracethornville.org)

Fax: 740/246-6284

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Grace.Thornville](http://www.facebook.com/Grace.Thornville)

Worship: Sundays 8:00 and 10:30a.m.

### Our Staff

Pastor:	Tom Jacobson 740-242-2192
Office Manager:	Beth Gilgien 740-398-4502
Accompanist:	Sue Ellen Simmons 740-605-1530
Choir Director:	Diane Christensen 740-215-2396
Handbell Choir:	Becky Winegardner 740-467-3164
Men of Grace:	John Ulmer 740-281-7672
Church Council President:	Carl Lahman 614-329-8639
Council Vice President:	Matt Sheridan 740-405-6873
Council Secretary:	Diane Christensen 740-215-2396
Director of Inreach:	Linda Keaser 740-403-4197
Director of Outreach:	Vicki Jones 740-403-7311
Director of Upreach:	Casey Sigler 740-279-5405
Financial Secretary:	Jackie Combs 740-246-4751
Treasurer:	Rick Rockwell 740-624-2241
Bd of Women President:	Cherl Haggengjos 740-342-2276
Safety/Security Team:	Jim Lewis 740-503-0476
Sacristan:	Meg O'Reilly 740-644-3504
Facilities:	David Rodenbaugh 740-215-6099

*Please call the church office with regard to any of the following:  
Hospitalizations; Baptisms; Confirmation; Weddings;  
First Communion; Spiritual Counseling; Prayer Concerns*

## The Ten Commandments: The Third Commandment

*“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.”*

Exodus 20:8 ESV



In this third of the Ten Commandments, we hear the odd sounding word “Sabbath.” What does it mean? In the Hebrew language, it simply means “rest.” Among the Israelite people in the Old Testament, this commandment had a specific meaning. God commanded them to rest from their work on the seventh day of the week. This was not just some pointless regulation. Taking time to rest is an important part of the rhythm of life. It was meant as a constant reminder of what is truly important in life. Our daily work certainly is important, but it should not cause us to neglect other important parts of life: family and of course God, the one from whom all blessings flow. In the Bible, this Sabbath day was observed from sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday. (Note that the Sabbath day in the Bible is not Sunday!) To this day, Jewish people observe the Sabbath at this time. They gather with their families for rest, fellowship, and worship of God.

Like other laws and regulations that God commanded the Israelite people in the Old Testament, Christians have generally understood that they are not bound by the regulation to observe the Sabbath day as outlined in the Old Testament. But this does not mean that this Third Commandment is irrelevant. It had a particular meaning for the Israelite people, but it has a more universal meaning that does apply to Christian people.

For Christians, there is no single particular day on which we must worship publicly. Many people have come to believe that “Sabbath” refers to Sunday, but that is not correct. Over time, Sunday, the first day of the week, came to be associated with Christian worship, and hence a day of rest. This is partly because Sunday was the day of Jesus’ resurrection from the dead. But Lutherans have always understood that there is no particular day that is mandated for Christian worship. If a congregation chooses to designate Sunday as its time for public worship, that is fine, and there is good symbolism behind Sunday worship, being rooted in Jesus’ resurrection. But when to worship remains a congregation’s free choice. It is perfectly acceptable for a congregation to choose another day on which to gather, and there are places where that is the case, which hold worship on Saturdays or Wednesdays, for example.

Whatever the case, we Christians are in need of Sabbath. What does that mean for us? In the *Small Catechism*, Martin Luther simply explained it in this way:

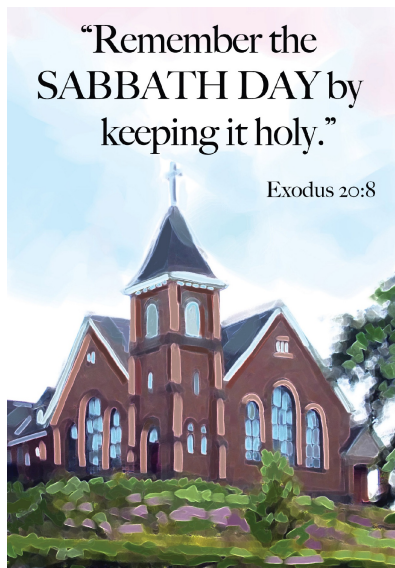
*We should fear and love God so that we do not despise his Word and the preaching of it, but acknowledge it as holy, and gladly hear and learn it.*

God knows that as we live our lives on this earth, we need to be refreshed and renewed, both physically and spiritually. And so the Sabbath is not some pointless regulation we need to follow, but instead is a blessed gift. In his *Large Catechism*, Martin Luther explained that we need Sabbath for “bodily need.” But more importantly, Sabbath exists “so that people may have time and opportunity, which otherwise would not be available, to participate in public worship, that is, that they may assemble to hear and discuss God’s Word and then praise God with song and prayer.”

This command not to neglect the hearing of God's Word is meant as a gift to us, as it is through that Word that we are constantly reminded of who we are. And God desires to renew us through his good news in Jesus Christ. It is tempting to let other voices drown out the voice of God. But Jesus keeps calling out to us: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-29).

*Thomas E. Jacobson*

Pr. Tom Jacobson



Worship In May  
Sundays 8:00 and 10:30am  
Holy Communion Celebrated Every Sunday

**Sunday, May 5 - 6 Easter**

Acts 10:44-48                      Psalm 98  
1 John 5:1-6                        John 15:9-17

**Sunday, May 12 - 7 Easter**

*First Communion*  
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26              Psalm 1  
1 John 5:9-13                        John 17:6-19

**Sunday, May 19 - Day of Pentecost**

*Wear red to remind us of the fire of the Holy Spirit.*  
Ezekiel 37:1-13                      Psalm 104:24-35  
Acts 2:1-21                            John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15



**Sunday, May 26 - The Holy Trinity**

Isaiah 6:1-8                         Psalm 29  
Romans 8:12-17                     John 3:1-17



March's Vital Signs  
Average Worship Attendance - 153  
8:00am - 32    10:30am - 121

## A Word from Carl Lahman (Council President)

Being council secretary last year and council president for four months this year, I have learned a lot about how Grace Lutheran Church functions and its ministries.

One of the things I am learning more and more about is how we arrive at our budget and how many special funds we have, which are separate from the budget.

Money is one of those things that we never seem to have enough of. No matter how much we have, we can always use more. Won't it be nice when we get to heaven and we won't have to worry anymore about money? But in the meantime, we need to be good stewards of our money, just like every other gift that God has given us to manage, which reminds me of a scene from the movie "*It's A Wonderful Life*". The film stars Jimmy Stewart as George Bailey, a man who has given up his dreams and decides to end his life on Christmas Eve. But his guardian angel, Clarence, intervenes and eventually shows George all the lives he has touched and realizes what a wonderful life he has.

The scene in the movie that I want to describe is when George loses \$8,000 (actually it was Uncle Billy who lost the \$8,000, which would be worth about \$127,000 today) and a warrant is out for his arrest for bank fraud. At this point, George loses hope. So, what does George do? He gets drunk, crashes his car, and staggers to a bridge, intending to end his life. However, before he can leap, Clarence jumps in and pretends to be drowning. George rescues him and as they are drying off, Clarence reveals himself to be George's guardian angel and wants to help him. **George says, "You don't happen to have 8,000 bucks on you?" Clarence smiles and says, "Oh, no, no. We don't use money in**

**heaven." George replies, "Oh, that's right, I keep forgetting. Comes in pretty handy down here, bub!"**

So, what does this have to do with Grace and our church budget? Money comes in pretty handy here at Grace too! It takes money, not only for our ministries, but also our staff and this beautiful church. Wouldn't it be nice if our budget allowed us to dream about new possibilities?

I Corinthians 16:2 says: *On the first day every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come, no collections will have to be made.*

If we look carefully at this verse, we see that (1) offering is an act of worship, which should be done in joy (not just a duty); (2) Our giving needs to be systematic, not in urgent appeal or a financial crisis; (3) We should give in proportion to what we have earned; and (4) our giving should be planned in advance.

If God has a plan, shouldn't we? Did you know that our total Budget for 2024 is \$284,260? That means we should average \$5,460 in giving each week that goes specifically to the general budget. Did you know that for the past year, including this year, our giving has not kept up with our expenses nor our budget? This makes it difficult, for example, to keep up building maintenance and growing ministries.

Keep in mind that nobody will ever come up to you and tell you that you need to give more. That's between you and God.

On a personal note, early in my marriage to Jeni, I wasn't very smart with my spending. In fact, early on, Jeni fired me



and took over our checkbook. My point is, when planning your church giving amount, you may need to figure out who the financial person is in your family and work together to come up with a practical amount.

Faith too has a lot to do with it. When I retired, for the first few months I drove Jeni crazy with my financial spreadsheet. I wanted to account for every penny that we spent. I can tell you that over time I have learned more about being faithful. I've also learned to live within my means, follow a budget, and to be patient when I want something and when Jeni tells me "Not Now"!

In conclusion, let me close with a quote from 2 Corinthians 9:8: *And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything, and may provide in abundance for every good work.*

So, you see, life truly is wonderful.



*Linda L. Dittoe*  
3/26/1961 - 3/12/2024

*Donna Lynn Winegardner*  
12/19/1970 - 4/21/2024

## Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes April 9, 2024

Present: Pastor Tom Jacobson, Carl Lahman (President), Matt Sheridan (Vice President), Diane Christensen (Secretary), Linda Keaser (Inreach Coordinator), Vicki Jones (Outreach Coordinator), Casey Sigler (Upreach Coordinator)  
Absent: Rick Rockwell (Treasurer)  
Guest: Kris Lamphere

1. **Call to Order:** President Carl Lahman.  
Opening Devotion/Prayer: Pastor Tom Jacobson

2. **Potential Energy Savings** - Kris Lamphere

- Discussion - Educating the group leaders that use the church and potential signage was discussed. A beginning step is to keep all doors shut unless the space is in active use due to zone heating and cooling.
  - An announcement will be made regarding the importance of conserving energy.

3. **Pastor's Report/Items for discussion** - Pastor Tom

- Worship:
  - Have resumed children's messages on most Sundays.
  - Now using LBW (Green book) Setting 2 since Easter.
  - Have been doing announcements after the "sharing of the peace" for the last couple of Sundays - seems to be working.
  - Lent and Holy Week worship went well.
  - For Upreach - possibility of getting colored binders for worship leaders discussed.
- Confirmation class continues to go well.
  - Working with them to get requirements completed.
  - Confirmation Sunday for those who have completed requirements will be last Sunday of October (Reformation Sunday)
- "My Fifty-Two Favorite Hymns" devotional articles have begun and are available on my blog, usually one per week:  
<https://theelectronicconventicle.weebly.com/>

- Seventeen have been completed.
- Continuing shut in and hospital visitation with Tom Rodgers.
- Lenten “March Madness Hymn Bracket”
  - Champion hymn was “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God,” 28 to 24 over “Beautiful Savior”.
- Attended and spoke at the NALC Minkota (Minnesota and Eastern North Dakota) and Eastern South Dakota convocation held at church camp in northwestern Minnesota, from April 5-6.
- This summer, will plan on a series “My Neighbor’s Faith” during adult education hour on Sundays.
  - Will be in addition to the other adult group that meets.
  - Will be a look at other religions and types of churches.
- On April 28th, Intern Dale Stanley will be here with Pr. Jeff Morlock as I will be away.
  - Pr Morlock has asked that we provide Intern Stanley with pulpit supply money for that Sunday.
- Summer youth trip
  - Have three youth registered to go in addition to myself to Charleston, South Carolina July 21-26; not sure if others will join.
- Should get the egress window project in the parsonage started soon.
- Now it's my turn in the rotation for Thornville Community Assistance fund for the next few months.

#### 4. **Inreach Ministry Report** - Linda Keaser (Inreach Leader)

- WNALC
  - The May 18 th ladies luncheon is canceled. (The board is considering a church picnic or fall event for the congregation.)
- Monday Bible Study
  - The study has moved back to Mondays, 4 pm weekly in the Fellowship Hall.
- Adventures in Faith (Sunday School)
  - Adult classes continue to meet in St. John’s Chapel at 9:15 am now and during the Summer. The 3yr old-12 th grade last Sunday classes (until Rally Day in Aug.) will be May 12.
  - Youth are encouraged to register and participate in Vacation Bible School June 10-14.

- First Communion Class
  - Nine youth attended the First Communion Class, under the leadership of Pastor Theresa Jacobson. Their first communion will be on May 12th.
- Congregational Photo Directory
  - Special thanks to Mike Keaser for taking our directory pictures! Also, thanks to Carl & Jeni Lahman and Beth Gilgien for organizing and assisting in this project. 58 families are represented so far.
- Youth Report, Casey Sigler
  - Thank You to everyone who volunteered and attended our annual Easter Breakfast! We were able to raise \$650.00 to go towards the purchase of the outdoor Nativity Scene!
  - Saturday April 13 th the youth and anyone interested will leave the church at 8:30am to travel to the Hocking Hills to hike Old Man’s Cave and end the day with a picnic lunch at a local park. Plan to return around 3:00-3:30.
    - Discussed possibility of permission form and/or emergency contact form for future trips.
  - Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> the youth will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner after the 10:30 service to raise additional funds for the purchase of an outdoor Nativity Scene. Spaghetti, salad, breads and desserts will be served. Cost is donation.

#### 5. **Outreach Ministry Report** – Vicki Jones (Outreach Leader)

- Backpack Ministry is running more smoothly than ever! The extra closets plus the sturdy shelves have helped immensely. Backpack Ministry coordinators are thankful for the people who have stepped up to help. This ministry is currently serving 19 students from Thornville Elementary and 25 students at Sheridan Middle School.
- Military Ministry sent out six Easter care packages. The packages included candy, the Daily Bread devotional, key lanyard (made by the O’Reilly family), along with cards from GLC and the youth group. Total expenditures including shipping was \$103.20
- Adopt-A-Highway clean-up is scheduled for May 4 with a rain date of May 11.
  - Volunteers appreciated - Time commitment is approximately 2 hours that morning.

- Thornville Food Pantry served 29 families in March.
- GLC will be providing pizza for the Thornville Lifewise group on April 17 & 18.
- Just a reminder that the Blessing Box is up and running and is stocked with items, which are free to anyone. Community members and members of GLC have done a fantastic job of restocking the Blessing Box. Please continue your contributions! Thank you to all who have helped to keep this mission going strong.

**6. Upreach Ministry Report** - Casey Sigler (Upreach Leader)

- Thank you to all the ministry teams and volunteers that helped throughout Lent, Holy Week and Easter.
- Greeters and Communion Assistants needed.
- Five people showed up for acolyte training.

**7. Treasurer’s Report** - Rick Rockwell, Treasurer

- Reports submitted.

**8. Facilities Report** - Dave Rodebaugh, Facilities Coordinator

- Replaced two fire alarm batteries and one burglar alarm battery.
- Installed five more foam dispensers.

**9. Safety & Security Report** – Jim Lewis, Safety & Security Coordinator

- Working on an estimate for repinning all the outer doors and getting a new lock for the office door with pin pad access.
- Looking into getting an egress window in the parsonage basement for Henrik’s bedroom.
- Once we begin getting applications for VBS, we will need to run background checks.

**10. New Business**

- Egress window in parsonage
  - Council discussed the need for an egress window in the basement bedroom, which are essential and required by law in Ohio.
  - Carl Lahman made a motion and Vicki Jones seconded to move forward with getting an egress window for the

basement bedroom. Motion approved unanimously.

- Two companies have been contacted for estimates.
- Outer door locks
  - Council discussed Jim Lewis’ request for repinning all the outer church doors (a process where the pins/tumblers are changed, which will require a new key); plus getting a new lock for the front office door with pin pad access.
  - At this time no final decision has been made.

**11. Closing Prayer** - The Lord’s Prayer

**12. Adjournment**

Next Council Meeting: May 14, 2024 - 7 pm

Respectfully submitted, Diane Christensen (Council Secretary)

**From Martin Luther’s Small Catechism  
The Lord’s Prayer**

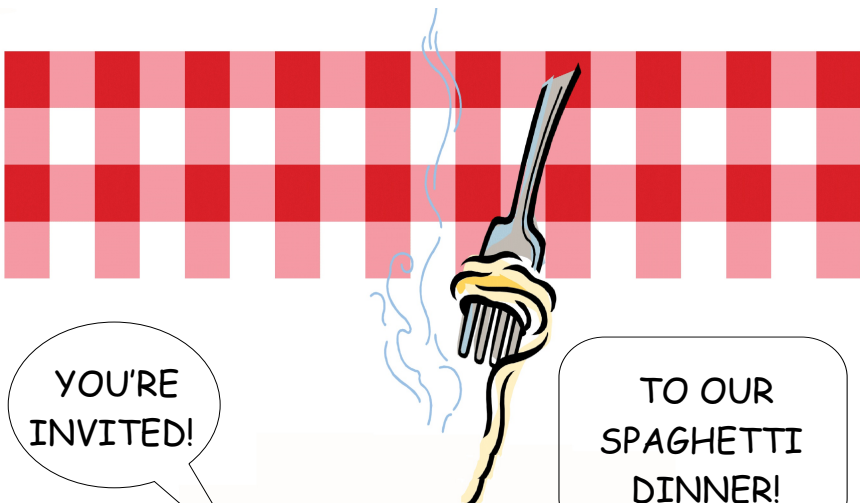


The Seventh Petition

*But deliver us from evil.*

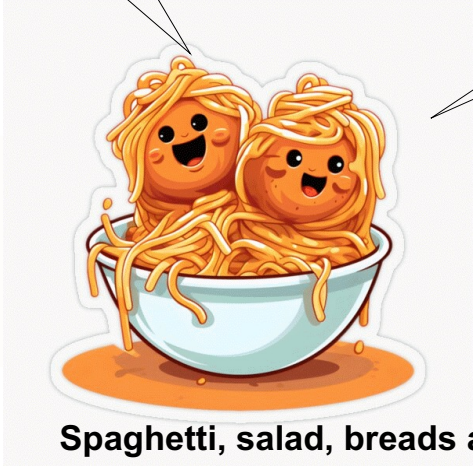
What does this mean?

*We pray in this petition, as in a summary, that our heavenly Father would deliver us from every type of evil—whether it affects our bodies or souls, property, or reputation—and at last, when our hour of death comes, would grant us a blessed end to our earthly lives, and graciously take us from this world of sorrow to himself in heaven.*



YOU'RE INVITED!

TO OUR SPAGHETTI DINNER!

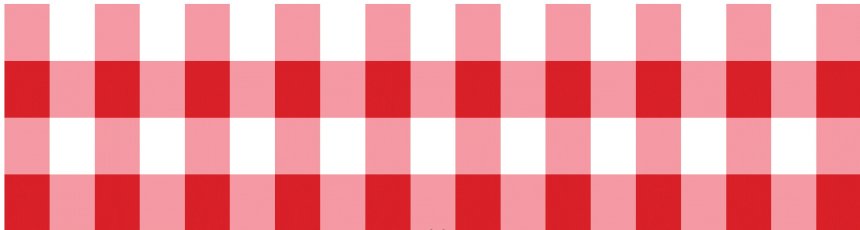


**May 5, 2024  
following the  
10:30 worship**

**Spaghetti, salad, breads and desserts!**

Hosted by the Youth! Donations collected will help them raise money to purchase a new outdoor nativity scene for the church.

If you would like to help please contact Casey Sigler 740-279-5405 or Pastor Theresa 740-242-2192.



**New Baby on the Way!**

Everyone please join us in celebrating this joyous occasion with Trisha Reynard on Saturday, May 4th, 2:00-5:00 pm in the fellowship hall.

A gift of books in lieu of cards would be greatly appreciated.

Snacks and refreshments served. Trisha is registered at Target and Amazon.



**Adopt-A-Highway** clean-up is scheduled for **May 11**, 9:00am. Volunteers appreciated! This is a servant event for our Youth and families. Time commitment is approximately 2 hours that morning. Contact Pastor Tom for more info: [pastor@gracethornville.org](mailto:pastor@gracethornville.org)





Huge shoutout to Grace Lutheran and their commitment to getting the Thornville LifeWise kids across the busy street safely. I wish we had pictures of each of them that help out. If you would like to help in this way please message us. [lifewise.org/northernlocaloh](http://lifewise.org/northernlocaloh)



**Women of the NALC  
Grace Lutheran Church – Thornville, Ohio  
January 8, 2024**

Members Present: Valinda Arnold, Marian DeRolph, Cheryl Haggenjos, Theresa Jacobson, Linda Keaser, Anna Oberhauser, Kaye Smith Guest: Wanda Hupp  
Linda K. called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Women read together the Purpose Statement. Linda led devotions entitled "Maintain Unity."

**Treasurer's Report:** Marian updated the board on our account. Current Balance is \$5,995.19.

**Secretary's Report:** Theresa read minutes from the October meeting.

**Old Business:** Kaye reported that all the Thank Offering items were distributed to the local pantries. December Circle Up – 14 participants were present, and the recipients of the care packages were most appreciative! The money collected from the Rummage Sale was discussed. \$1,908 was received in donations from the sale. Pastor Theresa made a motion to round up the donation monies to \$2,000 and disburse \$500 each to the following ministries: Lifewise Academy, Christ's Table, Buckey's Water, and the Sheridan General Store (connected with the Backpack Ministry). Kaye seconded. Further discussion was held. Motion passed.

**New Business:** All were in agreement that the officers would remain the same for 2024.

**Lenten Suppers:** Suppers will be held on February 14, 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20, and 28. Wanda Hupp will be gone for some of them. The women passed around a sign-up schedule for assisting with the suppers. Everything is in order for those. Valinda A. made a motion to host a Baked Potato Lunch following worship on Sunday, March 17th. A free-will

donation will go towards the funds needed to purchase a new outdoor nativity scene. The KFrogs and KFC are working to raise funds for this important outdoor decoration. The youth will help the women with serving the lunch. Linda K. seconded. Motion passed. "Irish Spud Lunch" will include baked potatoes with a variety of toppings, salads, drinks, and dessert.

Prayers were offered for those in our community that are dealing with illness and/or grief, as well as those who are in their homes. We prayed together The Lord's Prayer before adjourning.

Next meeting will be April 8th at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Theresa Jacobson, Co-Secretary

**Women of the NALC**  
**Grace Lutheran Church – Thornville, Ohio**  
**April 8, 2024**

Members Present: Marian DeRolph, Theresa Jacobson, Linda Keaser, Kaye Smith; Absent: Valinda Arnold, Cheryl Haggenjos, Anna Oberhauser

Linda K. called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Women read together the Purpose Statement. Theresa led devotions based on Psalm 27, emphasizing that Christ's light is always with us, even when life seems very dark.

**Secretary's Report:** Theresa read the minutes from the January 8th meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Marian updated the board on our account. Current Balance is \$3,709.85

**Old Business:** Discussion was held and feedback given on the Irish Spud Lunch that was held following worship on March 17th. The board felt it was a success. Thank you to all who came and joined us for a time a fellowship and good food! And thank you to all who contributed donations to go towards the purchase of a new outdoor nativity scene. The board would also like to thank KFC and KFrogs (youth) for their enthusiasm and help with serving and bussing tables.

The Lenten Soup Suppers went very well this year. Thank you to all who helped with bringing soup or dessert. Thank you to those who helped with serving and clean-up. You are all most appreciated!

**New Business:** The board was approached and asked to help with serving the spring lunch for the Dart Ball League in 2025. The board tabled this for the next meeting when more of our board members are present.

\* The Spring Event that was being planned for May 18th will not take place this year due to too many conflicts that weekend. The board discussed the idea of having a potluck picnic (outdoor) to be held later in the Fall, perhaps around August or September. More discussion will be held on this and the board will meet to discuss and plan further if necessary.

Prayers were offered for those in our community that are dealing with illness and/or grief, as well as those who are in their homes. We prayed together The Lord's Prayer before adjourning.

Next meeting will be July 8th at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Theresa Jacobson, Co-Secretary

**Attention Graduates:**

We want to honor you! We would like our photo along with the name of your school, graduation date, and plans for the future in the church office. Info and photo can be emailed to office@gracethornville.org Graduation Sunday will be June 9. For more information contact Linda Keaser (740-403-4197).



**Paul Varner Scholarship Fund** applications are available in the church office. Application deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup> of current year. Applicants need to submit a completed application, an essay of 500 words or more (750 maximum) describing their recent involvement at Grace Church and how your involvement has created an awareness of the need to help others, a high school final grade card or transcript, and formal proof of acceptance to secondary education institution. Please contact Beth Raab 740-755-6410 or any council member for more information.



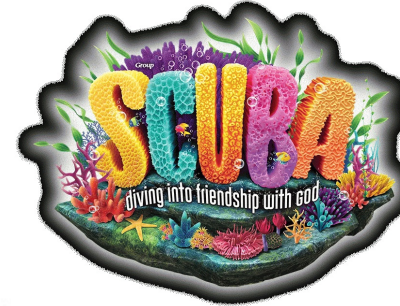
With the increase in heating and electricity bills, it is now more important than ever to do everything we can to reduce energy usage.

Last year we replaced all lights with LED lights.

This year we would like everyone to close doors and turn off lights when not in use, especially class rooms, sanctuary, gathering space, fellowship hall and Noah's club.

Thank you for saving energy!

2024 Thornville Community VBS  
June 10-14, 9am-12pm  
Grace Lutheran Church (Gr. 1-6)  
Thornville United Methodist Church (Pre-K)



Kids will dive deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they will experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. They will experience Music, Games, Sticky Scriptures, Snacks, Imagination Station activities, and great Bible Adventures every day.

Scan the QR Code for more information and to pre-register online. Pre-registration allows for one friend request. Registration opens Friday, April 26, and closes Wednesday, May 29, 2024.



If pre-registration is not an option, adults may register children in person at Grace Lutheran any morning, 8:30 a.m., June 10-14. For those who would rather not register online, paper forms may be found at Grace Lutheran Church, Thornville United Methodist Church, South Shore Ministries or Trinity United Church of Christ.

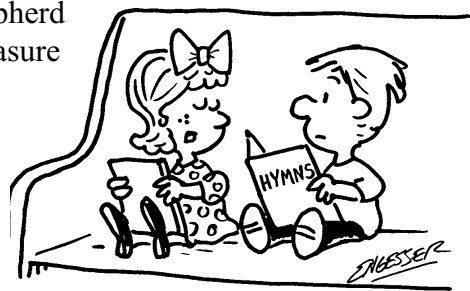


## ♪ My Fifty-Two Favorite Hymns ♪

Pr. Tom is providing a weekly devotional reflection on his list of fifty-two of his favorite hymns, one for each week of the year, which is posted on his blog. The hymns chosen correspond roughly to the unfolding church calendar. Hymns provide us with a window into the time and circumstances in which they were written, but they also help us in our own life of prayer as they express the faith of the Church with grace and beauty. You can access these weekly reflections at the following link:

<https://theelectronicconventicle.weebly.com>

- Week 1: Prepare the Royal Highway
- Week 2: Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending
- Week 3: My Heart Is Filled with Wonder
- 4. I've Found Now the Fairest of Roses
- 5. Of the Father's Love Begotten
- 6. The Only Son from Heaven
- 7. I Walk in Danger
- 8. Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain
- 9. Glory Be to Jesus
- 10 Near the Cross
- 11 Ah, Holy Jesus
- 12 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded
- 13 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands
- 14 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness
- 15 Beautiful Savior
- 16 My God, How Wonderful Thou Art
- 17 The Lord's My Shepherd
- 18 Jesus, Priceless Treasure



"Where's the hers?"

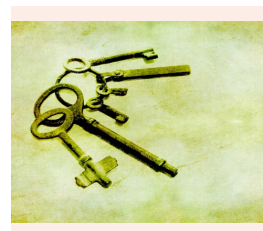
## Security Updates

### OFFERING COUNTING TEAM



Ever wonder what happens to the offering at the end of the service? Want to get involved in the church, but don't have a lot of time? This is the ministry for you!!! Come be a part of the Offering Counting Team. These teams will consist of 2-3 people responsible for counting the offering then delivering it to the bank in Thornport. Training will be provided. Interested? Contact Jim Lewis 740-503-0476 or [security@gracethornville.org](mailto:security@gracethornville.org), Jackie Combs - [giving@gracethornville.org](mailto:giving@gracethornville.org) or contact the church office.

### CHURCH KEY HOLDERS



If you are a key holder of the church, please be aware that changes are coming! Until then, if you are the last one in the church, please ensure that all doors (office and exterior) are locked. If you arrive during office hours, please let Beth or Pastor know you are in the building and check out with them when you leave. If there are multiple groups meeting or working in the church, please communicate with each other about locking up. If there are problems or no key holders are available, please contact Jim Lewis at 740-503-0476.

### SECURITY VOLUNTEERS

I am looking for a few individuals that would be willing to "keep an eye on things" during services and would be willing to ensure that all doors are locked at the end of service. I may need some assistance with other tasks, like when I am on vacation, but I promise nothing major. If you are interested, please contact Jim Lewis at 740-503-0476 or [security@gracethornville.org](mailto:security@gracethornville.org)




## Pioneer Bible Translators The Vogts Serving the Bibleless in East Africa

### Some Bad News

- The first few weeks after arriving were a bit on the bumpy side. The short rainy season was in full force and we arrived to everything covered in mold. The first week was spent cleaning every surface area and every piece of clothing and bedding. (\$0)
- A few weeks later, the washing machine died. (\$550)
- Rich was rear-ended by a motorcycle while heading to the mechanic to get a driveshaft repaired and four new tires. Thankfully, neither him nor the motorcyclist were injured. (\$1,600)
- Our bathroom faucet sprung a major leak. The cheap metal had corroded in only 2 short years. (\$35)
- We got a new washing machine...yay!! Then the electric went out for the next three days as a transformer blew near our house. (\$0)
- Part of our security fence (that we just put up two years ago) fell down from terminate damage. When we started repairing that portion, the rest of the entire side collapsed. (\$800)

### The Very, Very Good News

- The second week after arriving back on the field, we made the 16 hour, 2-day trip to the small town of Geita, Tanzania. Within the first minute of meeting our new child, we were all in love! We have been waiting and praying for the past 6 weeks about getting the last government letter we need to go and pick up our sweet child. We are happy to share that we will be leaving on Monday (April 1st) and will be together with them on Wednesday! If you'd like a hint on the gender and age, we have an Amazon Registry. Sarah's mom is coming the first of May.
- After seeing our Facebook posts about the "Bad News," several people made special contributions totaling \$1,275 to help towards these unexpected expenses. Join us in thanking God for all His provisions and for His church. A teammate was able to bring over a new brass faucet (see pic below) from the states just this past week that should last a very long time!



# PUZZLE

## UNFADING BEAUTY

Peter says beauty shouldn't come from outward adornment.  
How does a godly woman adorn herself on the inside?

---

*Directions: From each list, write the word that doesn't belong.  
Then insert the circled letters in order below to complete 1 Peter 3:4, NIV.*

---

flower, stem, bee, leaf	_ ( ) _
pink, red, yellow, blue	_ _ _ ( ) _
mother, sister, brother, aunt	_ _ _ _ _ ( ) _ _ _
purple, dress, skirt, blouse	_ _ _ _ _ ( ) ( )
necklace, ring, bracelet, braid	_ _ _ _ _ ( ) _
diamond, emerald, heart, ruby	_ _ _ _ _ ( ) _ _ _
orange, cherry, potato, kiwi	_ _ _ _ _ ( ) _ _ _
my, our, she, your	( ) _ _ _ _
faith, family, love, hope	_ _ _ _ _ ( ) _ _ _
sunny, rainy, snowy, temperature	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ( ) _ _ _ _
cookie, cake, pie, sandwich	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ( ) _ _ _
silver, white, gold, bronze	_ _ _ _ _ ( ) _ _ _

"Rather, it should be that of your inner self,  
the unfading beauty of a g \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
and qu \_ \_ \_ \_ p \_ \_ \_ \_ , which is  
of great worth in God's sight." 1 Peter 3:4, NIV



*Grace Lutheran Church  
Thornville, Ohio*

**Purpose**

**To invite All to discover, live and share God's gift of new life through Jesus Christ.**

**Mission Statement**

**Sharing God's Love through Grace.**

**Vision**

**We Are A Community Developing Faithful Followers Of Jesus By Experiencing God's Grace Through Friendship, Spiritual Growth and Service.**

**Core Values**

1. That the Gospel calls us to unconditional regard for all people.
2. That Prayer is necessary for our relationship with God, one another, and the world.
3. That Scripture provides the foundation for our lives of faith.
4. That the authority for our ministry is founded in Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, which is the Body of Christ on earth. An elected Parish Council provides administrative authority; our called pastor(s) provides the spiritual authority of the Office of Word and Sacrament Ministry.
5. That each member is uniquely gifted by God for ministry and is expected to mature in discipleship of Jesus Christ.
6. That any ministry based on our Purpose, Mission, Vision and Core Values is valid for our congregation, and may, at any time, evolve or end.

"Phishing" Scams - In our sinful world, there is unfortunately no shortage of people who seek to deceive and take advantage of others. Often, such scammers will send emails or texts to church members pretending to be the pastor and then asking for money or gift cards. If you receive one of these emails or other communications, ignore them. Pastor Tom or other NALC church leaders will never contact you in such a manner. If you do receive such an email or text, please inform the church office.

**Grace Lutheran Church  
65 E. Columbus St.; PO Box 284  
Thornville OH 43076**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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